



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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December 17, 1998

TO: Minerals File

FROM: Tony Gallegos, Reclamation Engineer *aa*

RE: Site Inspection, San Rafael Energy, Inc., Probe Mine, S/015/011, Emery County, Utah

Date of Inspection: October 9, 1998
Time of Inspection: 11:00 - 1140
Conditions: Sunny, warm, clear skies and gnats
Participants: Tony Gallegos, DOGM

Purpose of Inspection: To examine the reclaimed mine site and shaft closures in consideration of reclamation release

NOTE: According to Division files final reclamation at this site was completed in 1996.

The inspection began at the southern edge of the angle of repose mine dumps. Photos were taken of the dumps looking north at the mine area. Visible in these photos is a line of mounded waste material over the access road. From the southern edge I walked around to the east end of the mine site. All structures have been removed from the site. There were some desirable plant species on portions of the pad area, mainly indian ricegrass. Plants are generally located in areas which have topsoil mixed in or with topsoil covering the waste material. Most of the plants on the pad area are russian thistle and halogeton. Additional photos looking toward the west show the reclaimed access road and waste dump.

There is very little vegetation on the waste rock dump. Photos were taken looking toward the south-southeast showing the top of the waste rock dump. The dump top was graded toward the east with the west facing dump slopes left at the angle of repose. One unusual feature at the site was a rectangular area of vegetation. Photographs were taken of this vegetation located on the south side of the waste dump between the dump and the reclaimed road. This area may have been a drainage field or leach field associated with the mine operation.

The shaft site is believed to be visible as a large mound of waste material. This mound shows no signs of settling or instability at this time. A GPS unit was used to obtain a location point at the shaft site. The point was named "probe" in rover file R100917A. The uncorrected position in latitude and longitude given by the GPS unit was north 38° 59' 20.34", west 110° 21' 06.15". **The corrected location for the point in UTM coordinates was East 556,194.86702 North 4,315,537.98506.**

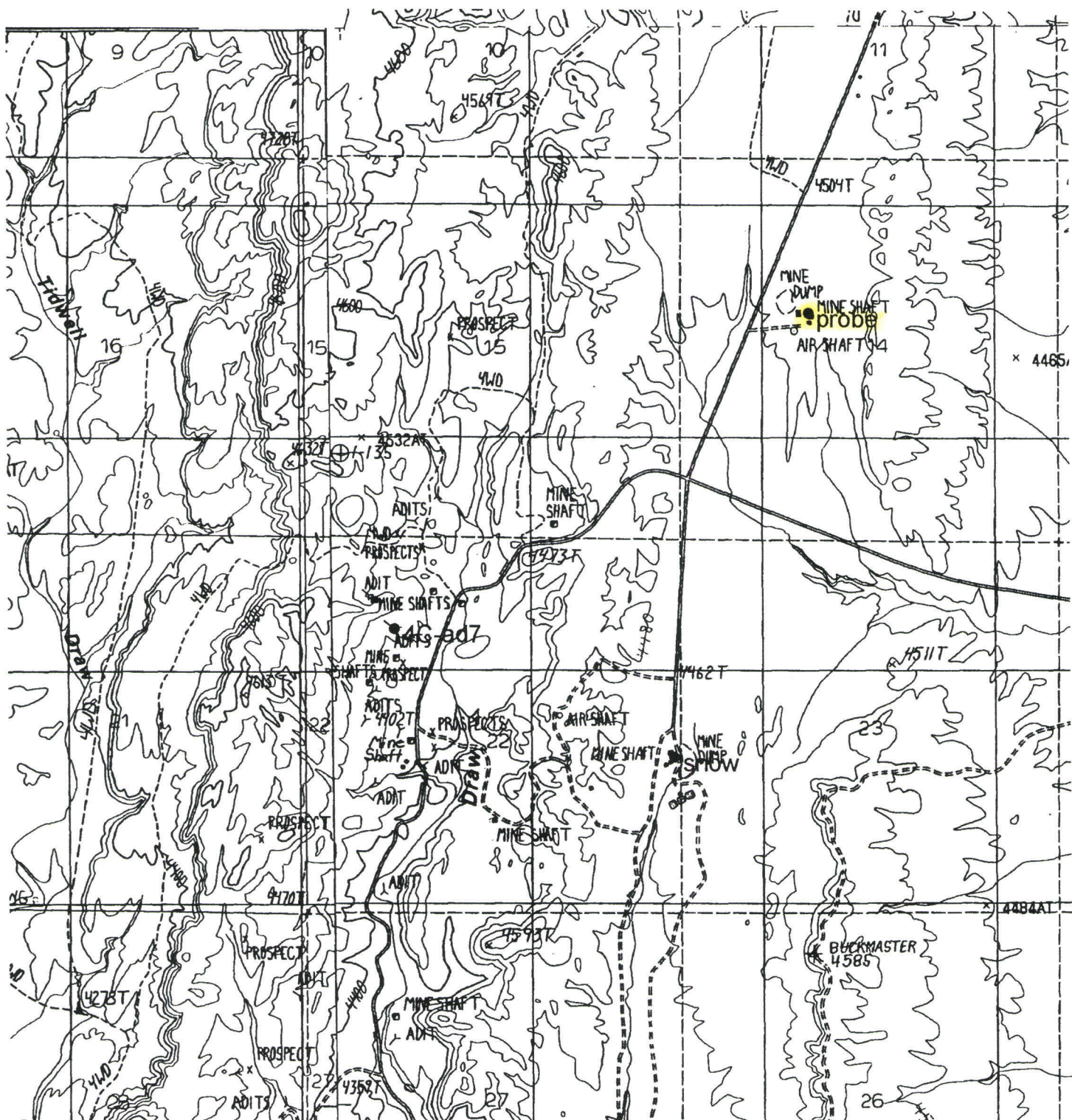
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According to Division files there was an additional ventilation hole at this site located to the south of the main dump. During this inspection, the location of a vent hole was not evident; however, there was a small mound of soils located south of the reclaimed access road.. Unless the ventilation hole is in some entirely different location this would imply that the backfill of the vent hole was stable and there was no settling. The maps in the Division files will need to be checked to verify the location.

In conclusion, this site appears to be stable from an erosional standpoint. With respect to safety issues, the shaft closure is intact and the vent hole or escapeway closure is also stable. Vegetation success on the waste rock dump, low grade ore stockpile and ore stockpile areas is poor in general with the best results on the flat areas which have some soils mixed in. The waste rock slopes which were left at angle of repose have very little vegetation. A letter addressing reclamation release will need to be sent to the operator after consulting the BLM and reviewing Division files.

jb
cc: Gary Jacobson, San Rafael Energy
Dean Nyffeler, BLM Price FO
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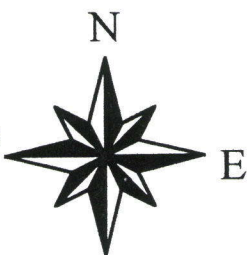
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**Spotted Wolf Canyon,
Jessies Twist Quads**

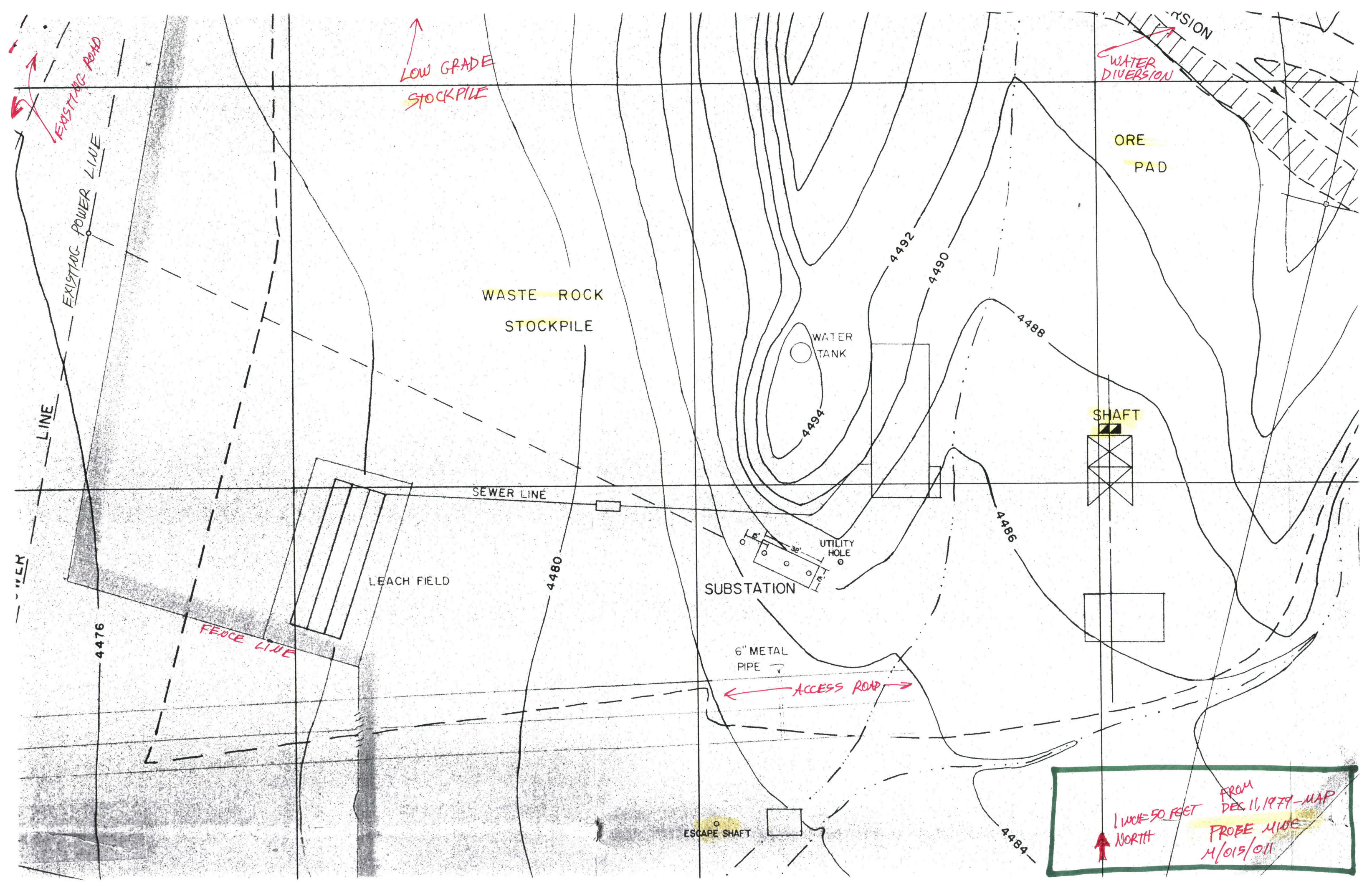
1:24000

0.5 0 0.5 1 1.5 Miles



PROBE MINE 3/015/011

UTM COORDINATES E 556,194.86702 N 4,315,537.48506 S



1 INCH = 50 FEET
FROM DEC 11, 1979 - MAP
PROBE MADE
4/015/011
NORTH

5/015/011 PROBE MIDE

